

EXPRESS MAILING LABEL: EU224302054US

DATE OF DEPOSIT: 2/7/2004

Applicant or Patentee: Clyde M. Stone

Matter No. \_\_\_\_\_

Serial or Patent No. \_\_\_\_\_

Filed or Issued: \_\_\_\_\_

For: Trailer hitch security device**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY  
STATUS (37 C.F.R. § 1.9(f) AND § 1.27(b))--INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled:  
Trailer hitch security device

Described in: ☐ The Specification Filed Herewith.  
☒ Application No. 10/775,052 Filed 2/7/2004  
☐ Patent No. \_\_\_\_\_ Issued \_\_\_\_\_

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as small business concern under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

- ☒ No such person, concern, or organization  
☐ Persons, concerns or organizations listed below\*

\*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 C.F.R. § 1.27)

FULL NAME Clyde M. StoneADDRESS 9 Century Ct.Trophy Club, Texas 76262

☒ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
☐ UNIVERSITY OR OTHER INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION

FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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☐ UNIVERSITY OR OTHER INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION

FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

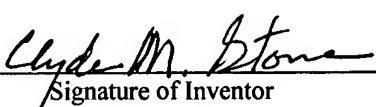
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☐ UNIVERSITY OR OTHER INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 C.F.R. § 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Clyde M. Stone		
NAME OF INVENTOR	NAME OF INVENTOR	NAME OF INVENTOR
		
Signature of Inventor	Signature of Inventor	Signature of Inventor
2-12-04		
Date	Date	Date